

# THE BROOKLYN TABERNACLE

MESSIAH'S KINGDOM TO BE IN-  
VISIBLE.

Luke 17:20-37—June 7.  
"The Kingdom of God is in your midst."

THE Pharisees heard of the claim that Jesus was the long-promised King, and they derided Him. They considered Jesus a deceiver and His followers dupes. Our lesson tells how they attempted to expose what they supposed was a deception. They publicly asked Him: When will God's Kingdom come? Jesus answered that God's Kingdom would not come with observation. That is to say, when it comes people will not see it; for it will be God's power exerted everywhere.

Had the translators noticed carefully, they would have guarded against any-thing that God's Kingdom was within those whom Jesus had designated hypocrites, whited sepulchres, etc. A closer examination shows that the text would better be translated, "The Kingdom of God is in your midst."

A kingdom is always represented by its king. Jesus, the King, was present, but they did not recognize Him. Similarly, throughout the Gospel Age, His Church has been undecerned by the world. "The world knoweth us not, even as it knew Him not." Christ and the Church in the flesh have been only the Kingdom class preparing for investiture of authority in God's due time.

"Days of the Son of Man." Turning to His disciples Jesus said, "The days will come, when ye shall desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and ye shall not see it. And when they shall say unto you, See here, or, see there; go not after them, nor follow them. For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of one part under heaven, shineth unto the other part under heaven; so also shall the Son of Man be in His Day."

This is better understood when we translate the Greek word *astrop* as shining, instead of lightning. Evidently our Lord referred to the sun. The Day of Christ is the Millennium; and His statement was one of His "dark sayings," respecting which He promised that in due time the Holy Spirit would grant enlightenment. This portion is now becoming clear.

Then, to indicate that these things belonged to a distant time, Jesus explained that first He must suffer many things and be rejected of that nation. Coming back to the signs of His presence, He declared, "As it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of Man."

Here we have something definite. At the time for the establishment of the Kingdom, everything will go along quietly and orderly, just as before the Deluge and the destruction of Sodom. Then mankind ate, drank, married, built, planted, as usual. These things are mentioned merely to indicate that the world will have no outward sign of Christ's Second Presence.

**The Deluge and Sodom's Destruction.** Everywhere the Bible foretells that Messiah's Kingdom is to be established upon the wreck of our present institutions. It is this wreck that Jesus illustrated by the Deluge and Sodom's destruction. His own presence is to be unknown to the world until the trouble is precipitated.

The Time of Trouble is frequently described as a burning of the world, and all the creeds of Christendom express the thought that the earth is to be burned. They overlook the fact that the "heavens" are to be burned. In the symbolical language of the Bible, the earth represents the social order; the sea, the restless discontented masses; and the heavens, the exalted spiritual powers. St. Peter declares that these will pass away with great confusion, and that instead will come new heavens and earth. (2 Peter 3:10-13) The new heavens will be the Church in glory; the new earth, the social order under Messiah's Kingdom.

**Saints on the Housetop.**

The Lord seems to assure us that all His faithful ones will die before the wreck comes. They will consume present institutions. In figurative language He says that in that Day of His Parousia, presence, before His Epiphany, revealing, those on the housetop should not go down to take their goods out.

The house is the House of God, and those on the housetop are God's most



Pharisees Questioning Jesus.

exalted people. As our time again we realize the necessity for flight, and are warned not to seek to save any of the stuff—social privileges, honor of men, small offices—deacon, elder, etc.

In the flight from Sodom, Lot and his family were warned to hasten, and not even to look back. So the Lord's people now are to "see out of Babylon." Lot's wife, disobeying, failed to escape. The Lord applies this illustration to His people and urges that their flight be with a full renunciation of the things of the present.

Whoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it. Whoever will lose his life will thereby preserve it—gaining the life everlasting.

## BANKERS URGED TO CO-OPERATE WITH FARMERS

SOUL MATERIAL HAS ENTERED  
THE BANK VAULTS OF  
THE NATION.

The Bank a Financial Power House  
to the Community.

By Peter Radford.

One of the greatest opportunities in the business life of the nation lies in practical co-operation of the country banks with the farmer in building agriculture and the adventure is laden with greater possibilities than any forward movement now before the American public.

A few bankers have loaned money to farmers at a low rate of interest, and oftentimes without compensation, to buy blooded livestock, build silos, fertilize the land, secure better seed, hold their products for a better market price, etc. The banker in contributing toward improving the grade of livestock; the quality of the seed and the fertility of the soil, plants in the agricultural life of the community a fountain of profit, that, like Tennyson's brook, runs on and on forever. Community Progress a Bank Asset.

The time was when money loaned on such a basis would severely test the sanity of the banker; such transactions would pain the directors like a blow in the face. A cashier who would dare to cast bread upon waters that did not return buttered side up in time for annual dividends would have to give way to a more capable man. This does not necessarily mean that the bankers are getting any better or that the milk of human kindness is being imbibed more freely by our financiers. It indicates that the bankers are getting wiser, becoming more able financiers and the banking industry more competent. The vision of the builder is crowding out the spirit of the pawnbroker. A light has been turned on a new world of investment and no usurer ever received as large return on the investment as these progressive bankers, who made loans to uplift industry. The bankers have always been liberal city builders, but they are now building agriculture.

**A Dollar With a Soul.**

It is refreshing in this strenuous commercial life to find so many dollars with souls. When a dollar is approached to perform a task that does not directly yield the highest rate of interest, we usually hear the rustle of the eagle's wings as it soars upward; when a dollar is requested to return at the option of the borrower, it usually appeals to the Goddess of Liberty for its contractual rights; when a dollar is asked to expand in volume to suit the requirements of industry, it usually talks solemnly of its redeemer, but soul material has entered into the vaults of our banks and rate, time and volume have a new basis of reckoning in so far as the ability of some of the bankers permit them to co-operate in promoting the business of farming.

**God Almighty's Noblemen.**

These bankers are God Almighty's noblemen. Heaven lent earth the spirit of these men and the angels will help them roll in place the cornerstones of empires. They are not philanthropists; they are wise bankers. The spirit of the builder has given them a new vision, and wisdom has visited upon them business foresight.

The cackle of the hen, the low of kine and the rustle of growing crops echo in every bank vault in the nation and the surew banker knows that he can more effectively increase his deposits by putting blue blood in the veins of livestock; quality in the yield of the soil and value into agricultural products, than by business handshakes, overdrafts and gaudy calendars.

## PROBLEM OF AGRICULTURE

Partnership with the bank, opening up a ledger account with progress making thrift and enterprise stockholders and the prosperity of the country an asset to the bank, put behind it stability far more desirable than a letterhead bearing the names of all the distinguished citizens of the community. The bank is the financial power house of the community and blessed is the locality that has an up-to-date banker.

## POLITICAL PRAYER MEETINGS

It is a sad day for Christianity when the church bells call the communicants together for a political prayer meeting. Such gatherings mark the high tide of religious political fanaticism, pit bitterness into the lives of men; fan the flames of class hatred and destroy Christian influence in the community. The spirit actuating such meetings is anarchistic, un-Christlike and dangerous to both church and state.

The success of the nation is in the hands of the farmer.

Work for the best and the best will rise up and reward you.

Tenant farming is just one thing and another without a day day.

It is an admitted economic fact that there can be no permanent prosperity without a permanent agriculture.

Agriculture is recognized as the greatest of all industries and a prosperous, progressive and enlightened agricultural population is the surest safeguard of civilization.

## Go After Business

In a business way—the advertising way. An ad in this paper offers the maximum service at the minimum cost. It reaches the people of the town and vicinity you want to reach.

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